

ENERGY STAR[®] Products Program
Key Milestones for Implementing Enhanced Qualification Testing Requirements
June 4, 2010

Introduction

In transitioning the ENERGY STAR labeling program away from self-certification, EPA will be requiring products to be tested for qualification in an EPA-recognized laboratory through participation in a third-party certification program. This transition to independent testing and third-party certification programs will be complete by the end of 2010.

Milestones

May 3

- **Release for Comment:** Requirements for Accreditation Bodies

May 17

- **Release for Comment:** Requirements for laboratory accreditation for all ENERGY STAR product specifications, and EPA process for recognizing laboratories

June 4

- **Release for Comment:** Proposed requirements for qualification and verification testing for all product categories, including requirements for certification programs

June 21

- **Finalize:** Laboratory accreditation requirements and recognition process, and start accepting applications
- **Finalize:** Requirements for Accreditation Bodies, and start accepting applications

July 19

- **Finalize:** Certification program requirements, including requirements for qualification and verification testing, and start accepting applications from certification bodies

July – December

- **Recognize:** Accreditation bodies, certification bodies and accredited laboratories

September

- **Finalize:** New partner commitments (requiring independent testing) for all products, and require partners to sign agreement to continue partnership

December 30

- Required participation in a third-party certification program for all products in specified categories

Verification Testing

In addition to requiring that products be tested for qualification in EPA-recognized laboratories, EPA will be instituting a verification testing requirement. Third-party certification programs will be required to have continuous verification testing procedures in place. For lighting products, ENERGY STAR will continue to require participation in a manufacturer-funded, centralized process administered by a third-party.